

Message Text

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70

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 IO-10

AGR-05 VO-03 SCA-01 INSE-00 L-03 /062 W

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R 032345Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8093

AMCONSUL MATAMOROS UNN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MX

SUBJECT: LABOR PROBLEMS INVOLVING MEXICAN ILLEGALS AT HIDALGO,
TEXAS

REF: MEXICO 4767

1. ONE ASPECT OF THE RECENT VIOLENCE AND RELATED STRIKE OF WORKERS IN THE HIDALGO, TEXAS AREA HAS NOT BEEN FULLY CLARIFIED IN PRESS REPORTS. THIS IS THE EXTENT OF INVOLVEMENT OF MEXICAN ILLEGALS. THE EMBASSY CONSIDERS THIS FACTOR EXTREMELY SIGNIFICANT AND STRONGLY URGES THAT THE DEPARTMENT AND AMCONSUL MATAMOROS SEEK AUTHORITATIVE INFORMATION ON THIS SUBJECT FROM APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES, FEDERAL AND LOCAL, IN THE AREA.

2. THERE HAS, IN THE PAST, BEEN SOME AMBIGUITY IN ATTITUDE OF CHICANO GROUPS TOWARD ILLEGAL MEXICAN ALIENS ISSUE. ON OCCASION, CESAR CHAVEZ, FOR EXAMPLE, HAS BEEN SHARPLY CRITICAL OF INS FOR FAILURE TO PREVENT FLOW OF ILLEGALS, AND HIS ORGANIZATION HAS ATTACKED ALLEGED PRACTICE OF US EMPLOYERS IN USING ILLEGALS AS STRIKEBREAKERS. IT SEEMS CLEAR, HOWEVER, THAT CHAVEZ' ORGANIZATION IS EXTREMELY ACTIVE AND, INDEED, PLAYING LEADERSHIP ROLE, IN HIDALGO

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SITUATION.

3. DEPENDING UPON FACTS OF HIDALGO SITUATION (SPECIFICALLY
LEGAL/ILLEGAL COMPOSITION OF STRIKING WORKERS), THIS MAY BE
FIRST SIGNIFICANT INSTANCE OF ORGANIZED COLLABORATION
BETWEEN CHICANO WORKERS AND MEXICAN ILLEGALS.

4. EMBASSY MAKES NO VALUE JUDGMENT ON FOREGOING. IT IS
OBVIOUS, HOWEVER, THAT ANY MELDING OF INTERESTS AND
ACTIVITIES OF US CITIZENS OR LEGALLY RESIDENT ALIENS ON
ONE HAND AND MEXICAN ILLEGALS ON THE OTHER WOULD LIKELY
RESULT IN INEXTRICABLE INTERMINGLING OF US DOMESTIC ISSUES
WITH THOSE INVOLVING US-MEXICAN BILATERAL RELATIONS.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: SEE PARA 1 ABOVE. JOVA

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MIGRATORY WORKERS, ALIENS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MEXICO04836
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750194-0469
From: MEXICO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750686/aaaadazf.tel
Line Count: 75
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 MEXICO 4767
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 SEP 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <11 SEP 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LABOR PROBLEMS INVOLVING MEXICAN ILLEGALS AT HIDALGO, TEXAS
TAGS: PFOR, ELAB, MX, US
To: STATE MATAMOROS
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006